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Message Text

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70
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 SAJ-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /074 W
---------- 079114
R 281530Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1606
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR CY GR US
SUBJECT: MAKARIOS LEAVES TO MEET COMMONWEALTH, KISSINGER, KARAMANLIS

REF A. FBIS TA 261731Z
B. FBIS TA 261730Z
C. FBIS TA 270553Z

1. SUMMARY: MAKARIOS LEFT CYPRUS APRIL 27 TO MEET SERIATIM WITH COMMONWEALTH LEADERS, KISSINGER, KARAMANILS. HIS DEPARTURE REMARKS WERE CAUTIOUS RE USG, THOUGH LOCAL GREEK PRESS REMAINS HOSTILE. ARCHBISHOP DUE BACK IN CYPRUS MAY 8 OR 9. END SUMMARY.

2. ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS EMPLAINED SATURDAY, APRIL 27, FOR COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE IN JAMAICA, MAY 5 MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER, AND "ONE-DAY" MEETING WITH GOG
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LEADERS. TRIP IS MAKARIOS' FIRST ABSENCE

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FROM CYPRUS SINCE HE RETURNED FROM EXILE LAST DECEMBER.
ARCHBISHOP TOLD PRESS HE EXPECTED TO BE BACK IN CYPRUS
"MAY 8 OR 9."

3. IN PRESS CONFERENCE AT LARNACA AIRPORT, ARCHBISHOP
ANSWERED SEVERAL QUERIES RE MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSIN-
GER. IN CAUTIOUS, NONCONTENTIOUS TONES, HE (1) DECLINED
ADVANCE COMMENT ON MEETING BEYOND SAYING IT WOULD
PARALLEL, NOT REPLACE, VIENNA TALKS; (2) SAW NO SIGN OF CHANGE
IN USG ATTITUDE TOWARD CYPRUS; (3) DOUBTED "VERY MUCH" THERE
IS AMERICAN PLAN FOR SOLUTION; (4) SAID IT DIFFICULT INTERPRET
RECENT MOVES BY USG OFFICIALS (E. G., HARTMAN) BUT OPINED THEY
DESIGNED TO SOUND OUT CONCERNED PARTIES; TL SAID HE DOES NOT
KNOW SECRETARY'S MIND AND DECLINED TO SPEAK FOR HW.

4. PRESSED AS TO WHO INITIATED MAY 5 MEETING, MAKARIOS
DECLARED THIS LESS IMPORTANT THAT FACT OF MEETING ITSELF.
HE ASSURED PRESS THAT MEETING WOULD NOT "HARM" CYPRUS PROBLEM.

5. SEVERAL QUERIES TURNED ON POSSIBILITY OF MOSCOW TRIP.
ARCHBISHOP PARRIED BY SAYING HE HAD MADE NO "FINAL DECISIONS",
BUT STRESSED HE WOULD GET INVITATION FROM USSR IF HE WISHED TO
GO.

6. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT, IN ATHENS, MAKARIOS SAID KISSINGER
SHOULD EXPECT NOTHING FROM HIM "SINCE I HAVE NOTHING TO GIVE",
ADDED THAT ONLY USG CAN EXERT STRONG INFLUENCE ON TURKEY TO
IMPROVE CYPRUS SITUATION. FROM LONDON, ARCHBISHOP QUOTED AS NOT
REPEAT NOT EXPECTING SOLUTION TO CYPRUS PROBLEM "IN NEAR FUTURE"
BECAUSE OF INTRANSIGENT TURK STAND.

7. LOCAL GREEK MEDIA OVER WEEKEND DWELT ON MAKARIOS DEPARTURE,
CLERIDES/DENKTASH TALKS IN VIENNA, PROSPECTIVE MAY 5 MEETING.
SOME PRESS CONTINUE SUSPECT THAT "USG PLAN" IS BREWING. ALL
COMMENTARY RE USG REMAINS HOSTILE.

A. PRO-MAKARIOS PHILELEFTHEROS REITERATED APRIL 26 THAT USG
BEARS MAJOR BLAME FOR CYPRUS TRAGEDY.

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B. PRO-CLERIDES AGHON BRANDED USG POLICY "HOSTILE" TO CYPRUS,
DECLARED THAT USG CONTINUES TO SEE CYPRUS AS PRIMARILY A
PROBLEM FOR ITS INTERESTS IN REGION.

C. FAR-RIGHT PATRIS BLENDS SUSPICION OF MAY 5 MEETING
WITH CONGENITAL HOSTILITY TO MAKARIOS. APRIL 27 ARTICLE
ASSERTED THAT MAKARIOS HAD "BOUND" HIMSELF TO WEST (I. E.,
THAT HE WOULD ACCEPT A PRO-TURK SOLUTION OFFERED BY USG,)

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IN EXCHANGE FOR WESTERN SUPPORT FOR HIS RETURN TO ISLAND LAST YEAR. SKEPTICAL OF DELAY IN ARRANGING MOSCOW TRIP, PAPER INTRIGUINGLY NOTED THAT ARCHBISHOP FOR MONTHS "HAS LISTENED A LOT TO ASTAVIN (RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR) BUT TALKED MORE TO CRAWFORD."

D. COMMUNIST HARAVGHI SWALLOWED HARD OVER NEWS OF MAKARIOS-KISSINGER MEETING. PAPER APRIL 27 NOTED "SHOCK" IN PUBLIC OPINION, BUT THEN DUTIFULLY OPINED THAT POLITICS RULE OUT "DOGMATIC" APPROACHES TO PROBLEMS AND LIMPLY SUPPORTED MAKARIOS' DECISION MEET WITH SECRETARY. WITH "MANY RESERVATIONS", HARAVGHI HOPED FOR CHANGE IN USG POLICY.

E. LYSSARIDES' TA NEA QUESTIONED KISSINGER MOTIVES FOR SEEKING (SIC) MEETING, BUT EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT ARCH-BISHOP WILL AVOID ANY "SNARE" WHICH SECRETARY MIGHT SET FOR HIM. TA NEA SOMEWHAT HAPPIER AT PROSPECT THAT MAKARIOS WILL ALSO SEE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, OTHER LEADERS IN US.

8. COMMENT: IMMEDIATE LOCAL FOCUS FOR NEXT FEW DAYS WILL BE JAMAICA MEETING, VIENNA TALKS. THIS BEING ORTHODOX HOLY WEEK, WE MAY SEE MORE RELIGIOUS METAPHOR ALONG LINES OF APRIL 28 ALITHEIA ARTICLE WHICH SAID CYPRUS NOW ON ROAD TO CALVARY AND WONDERED WHETHER USG, AS MODERN PILATE, WOULD LET CRUCI-FIXION OF CYPRIOT HELLENSIM PROCEED. END COMMENT.
BROWN

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